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E.O. 12958: N/A TAGS: <u>PGOV</u> <u>PREL</u> <u>GV</u>

SUBJECT: KOUYATE APPOINTS COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE HUMAN

RIGHTS ABUSES

11. (U) According to both private and government-owned radio reports, Prime Minister Lansana Kouyate officially established a commission to investigate alleged human rights abuses committed during the January/February strike. The Ministry of Interior and Security reportedly submitted a list of approximately fifteen delegates, which Kouyate signed late in the week of September 24. In recent months, civil society organizations harshly criticized Kouyate,s failure to establish the commission, a key objective of the January 27 Accords.

12. (SBU) COMMENT. The GoG officially reports that 137 people were killed and over 1700 wounded in January and February. Establishing a commission to investigate these alleged human rights abuses is a key component of Kouyate,s mandate. Now that the commission has been established, civil society will be looking to see these alleged crimes fully investigated with appropriate penalties enforced. END COMMENT.

BROKENSHIRE